

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 12806 032326Z
ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PER-01 ABF-01
NSC-05 OMB-01 SNM-02 DEAE-00 /042 W
-----070697 040649Z /12

R 031701Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6785
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12806

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AODE, SNAR, FR, UK
SUBJECT: MODE: DEA PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH POSITIONS

MATTERS

1. THE EMBASSY QUESTIONS THE NEED FOR OR WISDOM IN ASSIGNING A DEA ADVISOR ON COMPLIANCE AND REGULATORY MATTERS (ACRM). WE UNDERSTAND THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT REGULATORY OR DIVERSION PROBLEM HERE AND THAT THE VOLUME OF COMPLIANCE WORK IS TINY. WE BELIEVE, FURTHER, THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WITH WHOM WE WOULD WANT TO CONSULT ABOUT ADDING SUCH A POSITION WOULD VIEW IT NEGATIVELY, NOT JUST BECAUSE THEY ARE SOMEWHAT SENSITIVE ABOUT AN OVERLARGE OR OVERVISIBLE DEA OFFICE HERE, BUT BECAUSE THEY WOULD (CORRECTLY, IN OUR VIEW) TAKE UMBRAGE AT THE IMPLICATION THAT THEY ARE NOT MEETING THEIR REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS.

2. THERE IS ANOTHER CONSIDERATION THAT SHOULD BE GIVEN WEIGHT. THE BRITISH MEDIA -- AND NOT JUST ORGANS OF THE EXTREME LEFT -- HAVE HAD A TENDENCY TO VIEW THE DEA OFFAT THIS EMBASSYAS A CIA FRONT. THERE HAVE BEEN SPECIFIC ACCUSATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT A PREVIOUS DEA
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OFFICER HAD ENGAGED IN THE RECRUITING, ON BEHALF OF THE CIA, OF MERCENARIES TO FIGHT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. SUCH ACCUSATIONS COMPLICATE THE LIFE OF DEA OFFICIALS IN CARRYING OUT THEIR ASSIGNED DRUG ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS. A FURTHER INCREASE IN THE DEA STAFF -- AND THE LAST INCREASE IN THE STAFF QUICKLY MADE THE PAPERS -- WOULD ADD TO THIS PROBLEM.

3. FINALLY, GIVEN THE APPARENTLY SMALL VOLUME OF WORK SPECIFICALLY WITHIN THE PROVINCE OF THE PROPOSED ACRM, WE WOULD THINK IT COULD BE HANDLED BY THE ACRM IN PARIS, IF ONE IS ASSIGNED THERE, IN THE UNLIKELY CASE THAT THE PRESENT LONDON DEA STAFF COULD NOT HANDLE IT.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 03-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: AODE, SNAR, FR, UK
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